

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-11 (cancelled).

12 (new). A method of producing a recombinant membrane receptor protein, comprising:

introducing a baculovirus expression vector encoding said membrane receptor protein into a host cell;

culturing the resultant host cell for a sufficient time to permit expression of said membrane receptor protein and baculovirus viral particles;

separating the cells from the viral particles; and

recovering the baculovirus viral particles.

13 (new). The method of claim 12, wherein said membrane receptor belongs to the superfamily of receptors having seven transmembrane domains.

14 (new). The method of claim 13, wherein said membrane receptor belongs to the family of G-protein-coupled receptors.

15 (new). The method of claim 12, further comprising lysing said baculovirus viral particles.

16 (new). The method of claim 15, further comprising fractionating the lysate and recovering the fraction containing said membrane receptor.

17 (new). A method of producing recombinant membrane receptor from extracellular baculoviruses produced by a culture of cells infected with a recombinant baculovirus expressing a gene or cDNA encoding said membrane receptor, comprising:
isolating said recombinant membrane receptor from extracellular baculoviruses produced by a culture of cells infected with a recombinant baculovirus expressing a gene or cDNA encoding said membrane receptor.

18 (new). The method of claim 17, wherein said membrane receptor belongs to the superfamily of receptors having seven transmembrane domains.

19 (new). The method of claim 18, wherein said membrane receptor belongs to the family of G-protein-coupled receptors.

20 (new). The method of claim 17, further comprising harvesting and separating said extracellular baculoviruses produced by the infected cells.

21 (new). The method of claim 17, further comprising lysing said extracellular baculoviruses.

22 (new). The method of claim 21, further comprising fractionating the lysate and recovering the fraction containing said membrane receptor.

23 (new). A method to study the properties of membrane receptors including isolated baculovirus viral particles obtained by a method of producing a recombinant membrane receptor comprising:

introducing a baculovirus expression vector encoding said membrane receptor into a host cell;

culturing the resultant host cell for a sufficient time to permit expression of said

membrane receptor and baculovirus viral particles;

separating the cells from the baculovirus viral particles; and

isolating the baculovirus viral particles.

24. A method to study the biochemical, biophysical and functional properties of membrane receptors comprising the use of isolated receptors obtained by a method of isolating a membrane receptor from recombinant baculovirus viral particles obtained from cells which express a membrane receptor, said method comprising:

solubilizing membrane receptor from a purified baculovirus viral particle preparation; and

isolating the solubilized membrane receptor from the baculovirus viral particle preparation.

25. A method to study post-translational modifications of membrane receptors including isolated baculovirus viral particles obtained by a method of producing a recombinant membrane receptor comprising:

introducing a baculovirus expression vector encoding said membrane receptor into a host cell;

culturing the resultant host cell for a sufficient time to permit expression of said membrane receptor and baculovirus viral particles;

separating the cells from the baculovirus viral particles; and

isolating the baculovirus viral particles.

26. A method to study post-translational modifications of membrane receptors comprising isolated membrane receptors obtained by a method of isolating a membrane receptor from recombinant baculovirus viral particles obtained from cells which express a membrane receptor, said method comprising:

solubilizing membrane receptor from a purified baculovirus viral particle preparation; and

isolating the solubilized membrane receptor from the baculovirus viral particle preparation.

27. A method of screening molecules which are active on membrane receptors including use of isolated baculovirus viral particles obtained by a method of producing a recombinant membrane receptor comprising:

introducing a baculovirus expression vector encoding said membrane receptor into a host cell;

culturing the resultant host cell for a sufficient time to permit expression of said membrane receptor and baculovirus viral particles;

separating the cells from the baculovirus viral particles; and

isolating the baculovirus viral particles.

28. A method of screening molecules which are active on membrane receptors, comprising use of isolated membrane receptors obtained by a method of isolating a membrane receptor from recombinant baculovirus viral particles obtained from cells which express a membrane receptor, said method comprising:

solubilizing membrane receptor from a purified baculovirus viral particle preparation; and

isolating the solubilized membrane receptor from the baculovirus viral particle preparation.